

STORIES

TWO FRIENDS AND THE BEAR

Once two friends went on a journey (سفر) together (اکٹھے). They promised (وعدہ کیا) to help each other in time of need (ضرورت کے وقت). In a jungle, they saw a bear (ریپچ) coming towards them. One of them climbed up (چڑھ گیا) a tree. The other lay down (لیٹ گیا) and held his breath (سانس روک یا). The bear came and smelt (سو نگاہ) him. He thought him dead (مردہ بھجا) and went away. The first friend came down and said, "What did the bear say in your ear?" The other replied, "It advised (نیجت کی) me not to trust (بڑھ دس کرنا) in selfish friends (خود غرض دوست)."

Moral: A friend in need is a friend indeed (حقیقی دوست وہی ہے جو مصیبت میں کام آئے).

MERCURY & WOODCUTTER

Many years ago (گزے), a wood-cutter (لکڑھارا) was cutting down a tree. The tree was near the bank (کنارا) of the river. By chance his axe (کھپڑا) fell into the river (ریا). He did not know how to swim (نہیں نہیں). So he began to weep. Suddenly (اپنے), god Mercury (دیوتا مشتری) appeared (ظاہر ہوا) there. The wood-cutter asked for (ماگی) his help. Mercury dived (غوط لگانا) into the river. He brought out a golden (سرنے کا) axe. The wood-cutter refused (اکار کیا) to take it. Mercury dived again and brought out a silver (چاندی کا) axe. The wood-cutter did not accept (قبول کرنا) it also. Now, Mercury brought out an iron axe. The wood-cutter took it happily. Mercury was pleased (خوش) with his honesty and gave him the other two axes as a reward (انعام).

Moral: Honesty is the best policy (ایمانداری اچھی چیز ہے).

THE FARMER & HIS SONS

Once there was an old farmer. He had three sons. They always quarrelled (لات تھے) with one another. One day, he fell ill (بیمار ہو گیا). He sent for (بلایا) his sons. He gave them a bundle (کھٹکا) of sticks. He asked them to break it. They tried one by one but failed (نکام رہے). Then he untied (کھول دیا) the bundle and asked them to break the sticks (چڑیاں) one by one. The boys broke the sticks easily (آسانی سے). At this the old farmer said, "My sons, union is strength." After this they never quarrelled.

Moral: Union is Strength (اتفاق میں برکت ہے).

THE KING AND THE SPIDER

Robert Bruce was the king of Scotland. He was defeated by the king of England. He fled away (بھاگ گیا) to a forest. He hid himself in a cave (تلار). There he saw a spider (کڑی) falling down from its ceiling (چھت). It tried to climb up again but fell down. It made eight such attempts (کوشش) and failed. It did not lose heart (ہستہ نہ ہری). It tried once again and this time reached its web (جلال).

It was a lesson for the king. He made up his mind to fight again. He took a large army and defeated the England.

Moral: Try, try again.

THE FOOLISH STAG

Once a stag (بادھنگا) was drinking water at a pool (تالاب). He saw his reflection (عکس) in the water. He was very happy to see his horns (سینگ). But he was sad to see his thin legs (دلي تاڭيىش). Suddenly, he saw some dogs coming towards him. He ran away to save (پچانا) his life. His legs helped him. But his horns were caught up (پھنسىگە) in the bushes (جەلزىيان). He tried to free himself but in vain (بے سود). The dogs came and caught him. They tore him into pieces (گلۇوں میں).

Moral: All that glitters is not gold (ہر پچنے والی چیز سونا نہیں ہوتی).

THREE GREEDY FRIENDS

Once there were three friends. They were very poor (غرب). They decided (فصل کی) to go on a long journey (طويل سفر). On their way in the forest, they found a bag full of gold. They agreed (تفقىء کرنا) to divide (برابر) it equal (متساوی). But in his heart (دل میں), each wanted to have all gold. Soon they felt hungry (بھوک گئی). They sent one of them to bring food from the village. He mixed (ملدیا) poison (زہر) in the food to kill his friends. When he came back, the other two attacked (حملہ کر دیا) and killed him. But when they ate food they were also killed (مار لے کے).

Moral: As you sow, so shall you reap (جو بوجو، گئی کاٹوگے).

THE LION AND THE MOUSE

One day a lion was sleeping under a tree. A small mouse (چھات) came out of its hole (بل) and ran over his body. The lion woke up and caught the mouse. He wanted to kill it. But the mouse begged (اپنی کی) for mercy (مر). The lion took pity (تر) on it and let it go (جانے دیا). A few days later, the lion was caught in a net (جاں). He tried to free himself but could not. He began to roar (دھاندا). The mouse heard him. It came out of his hole and cut the ropes (ریس) with its sharp teeth. Soon the lion was free. He thanked the mouse and went away.

Moral: Do good and have good (کر بخلاه بخلا).

A SHEPHERD BOY AND THE WOLF

A Shepherd (بازار) boy used to graze (چاچا) his sheep in a forest near the village. One day he thought a joke (نمیت). He cried aloud "Wolf !, Wolf !" The villagers came running to help him. But they found no wolf (بھیڑیا). The boy laughed at them in fun. The people were angry and went back.

One day, a wolf actually (ریخت) came. The boy cried for help. But no body came to help him. The wolf killed the boy and his sheep.

Moral: Once a liar is always a liar (ایک بار جھوٹا ہیشہ جھوٹا).

Do not play tricks with others (دوسروں کو دھوکا ملت دو).